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EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 4, 1859.

Mr. Everett has been discussing in several of his recent papers in the New York Ledger, the subject of Italian Nationality, in which he argues, that, whilst late events constitute no near approach to unity among the Italian States, they are a first step in the right direction. He is hopeful. We see no first step--no step at all--in favor either of Italian Independence, or Italian Unity. We do not see any movement towards better government, or greater freedom, in any of the countries of which Italy is composed. The famous Peace, leaves every thing as it was when the war began, save the transfer of Lombardy from one master to another. Nor does Louis Napoleon's speech to the Ministers of State, which we publish in another column, even pretend to claim that he has effected what the world thought he intended to effect, when he made war against Austria. That speech is an apology, more than a triumphant and exultant manifesto to Europe. The Emperor of the French has fought great battles, and his soldiers have gained great victories, but he has done nothing for the cause of liberty, or national independence.

There was great excitement and indignation at Florence, when the news of the terms of peace, was reported. The French banners were torn down--and the Ministry issued an address to the Tuscan sympathizing with them in their feelings of disappointment. If the Italian Republicans, (we don't know, in reality, how many of them there are) could only hold "indignation meetings," what gatherings would be in Milan, Venice, Florence, and the rest of their cities! What resolutions they would pass--what speeches they would make--what anathemas they would hurl at Louis Napoleon!

The Frederickburg Herald says that not only in the Tide Water country in Virginia, but in Piedmont, there is a deficiency of less than twenty per cent in the wheat. The Herald argues that speculators are at work to keep down the price of wheat, and to exaggerate the accounts of the yield. Private letters from the West report a less abundant yield of wheat in Northern Illinois than was anticipated a fortnight ago.

Rev. James W. Alexander, D. D., of New York, died at one of the Virginia Springs, on Sunday last. He was an eminent minister in the Presbyterian church, and was formerly a professor at Princeton. He was born in Virginia in 1804--and was at the time of his death pastor of the Presbyterian Church in the city of New York.

The National Intelligencer says:--"The 'Kansas question' is apparently entering on its final stages, and whatever may be its solution, the time is fast approaching when we may sum up the history of a struggle which for so many years has elicited a popular zeal vastly disproportionate to the consequence of the 'issues' supposed to be at stake."

The Paris correspondent of the London Times says, it is reported that the Pope has refused to accept the office of Honorary President of the new Italian Confederation. This is only a report. But it is certain that the office was neither asked nor desired by Pius IX.

One of our exchange papers, noticing the return of the President from Bedford, says:--"His excellency, it was said, looked exceedingly well, having the slightest possible flush of the cheek?" That will do!

Accounts from almost every place, in other countries, where Americans reside, state that the 4th of July was celebrated by our citizens, even when there were but a few to unite in honoring the day.

The New York Herald is warning the commercial and business men, in this country, against the danger of another, "revolution" and money "crisis."

Count Arrese, the new Minister of Piedmont, it is said, has ever been a faithful friend and fellow traveler of Napoleon, having shared his fortunes--some say bed--during his exile in the United States.

The formation of volunteer rifle companies appears to be going on steadily and rapidly in England. The government volunteers to supply at once each corps with twenty five per cent. of Enfield rifles required for practice.

Letters from Northern Mexico report that Gen Garcia had been entrusted with the command of the army along the line of the Rio Grande.

The question as to the mode of appointing delegates to the Charleston Democratic Convention is beginning to be an absorbing one in New York.

Several ships of large tonnage are in the course of construction in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine, nearly all upon speculation.

The Ashland Races for the fall will commence on the 27th October next, and continue for five days.

Reports from Carson Valley indicate the election of Major Dodge, as delegate to Congress.

Private despatches have been received in Washington city, announcing the serious illness of Senator Davis of Mississippi.

Ex-President Tyler is at Old Point, taking it coolly and comfortably.

Mr. Hopkins, the U. S. consul at Kingston, Jamaica, died on the 24th ult.

News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the times."

M. Gaillardet, the Paris correspondent of the New York Courier des Etats Unis, and one of the best informed of the writers for the American press, ascribes the recent peace, among other things, to a serious misunderstanding between Napoleon and Victor Emmanuel. The latter felt offended, because his personal gallantry, and that of his army, at the battle of Palestro, were not noticed in Napoleon's order of the day.

Hon. E. B. Brown, contractor to furnish Black Heath coal for the Navy, at three dollars and a quarter per ton, has thrown up his contract, upon the ground that the department would not send the Wyoming to Richmond, above Philadelphia, to receive the coal. The contract specifies that the coal should be delivered on board of vessels in the port of Philadelphia, at such place as the department may designate. Charles J. DeGraw, lowest bidder to build the marine barracks at Brooklyn Navy Yard, not having complied with his engagement, the contract has been given to Ward L. Armstrong, the next lowest bidder.

The friends of the Sunday observance in New York appear highly gratified with the quiet and good order last Sunday, for whatever was detrimental to good morals was not visible to the outdoor world. As stated by the Commercial, the liquor shops were not open, though back doors were conveniently ajar. The lager beer saloons were again in full blast, and the music, interrupted for a few Sundays, was as loud and as "sacred" as in the olden time. The rush of pleasure seekers out of town, by boat and rail, was immense.

Of the many methods of preserving fence posts from decay, none is perhaps more simple and cheap than the one of soaking them in blue vitriol. At a recent meeting of the Farmer's Club, in Hudson, N. Y., one of the members exhibited a post which, previous to being placed in the ground, had been soaked in a solution of blue vitriol--one pound of vitriol being used to twenty quarts of water. The post was pine, and when taken up, was as sound as when first put down eight years since. This solution is good for all kinds of timber exposed to the weather--spouts, shingles, stakes, bean poles, &c.

Rev. J. B. Walker, pastor of the First Congregational Church in Sandusky, Ohio, and a host of other ministers of different denominations, and prominent anti-slavery men, have issued a call for a "Christian anti-slavery convention," to be held in Columbus, on the 10th and 11th of this month. Thus it appears that the religious fanatics, who, during the Fremont campaign, converted many churches into political arenas, are about to commence again maligning the Government under which they live and are protected.

The cornerstone of the national monument to the memory of the Puritan Pilgrims was laid at Plymouth with interesting civic and Masonic ceremonies. Military companies from different parts of Mass., in attendance, and speeches were made by Gov. Banks, President Warren, Grand Master John T. Heard, and others. The old town was beautifully and appropriately decorated. The procession was large and attracted much attention. Twenty-five hundred persons sat down to dinner, and speeches, toasts and letters enlivened the scene.

Mr. Marsh, an able chemist, has found that iron long under water, when reduced to powder, invariably becomes red hot, and ignites anything it touches. A general knowledge of this is important, and it accounts for many spontaneous fires. A piece of rusty old iron, brought into contact with a cotton bale in a warehouse, or on shipboard, may occasion much loss of life and property.

The Washington States mentions the reception of important private despatches from Northern Mexico. It is expected that within the next ninety days three thousand American troops will be organized on the Rio Grande, properly armed and equipped for the purpose of marching upon the city of Mexico and exterminating the whole Miramon faction.

A Pic Nic and Tournament came off at Thornton Hill, near Sperryville, Rappahannock county, on Thursday last. The entertainment is described as an elegant affair. A Tournament was held in the afternoon, and Thos. Hughes, esq., of Rappahannock, was declared the successful Knight. He crowned Miss Sallie Stevenson, of Frederickburg, queen of love and beauty.

Rev. Dr. Kenrick, Archbishop of Baltimore, arrived at St. Louis on Thursday last, and is staying with his brother, the Archbishop of St. Louis. These gentlemen, own brothers, and both archbishops, have not, it is stated, seen each other but twice in eighteen years, owing to the heavy labors imposed upon them by their archbishoprics.

The death of John B. Parrey, esq., is announced. Mr. Parrey was a Venezuelan lawyer of note in New York, who spoke English and Spanish equally well, and who, therefore, commanded a large share of Spanish practice at the Bar. He was interested in the White Nicaragua contract across the Isthmus.

On Friday, the 22d ult., David, the negro who was under sentence of death for rape, suffered the extreme penalty of the law at the jail, in Warsaw, Richmond Co., Va. Great excitement was manifested by the assembled multitude--the rope broke twice, and it was not until "the third trial that he was launched into eternity."

Mrs. Margaret Fuller, widow of the late Hon. Timothy Fuller, and mother of Margaret Fuller Ossoli, as well known in literary circles, and of Rev. Arthur B. and R. F. Fuller esq., of Boston, died at the residence of the latter, in Wayland, on Sunday, at the age of 70. She had survived her husband nearly a quarter of a century.

John R. Thompson, esq., editor of the Southern Literary Messenger, has determined upon giving a course of lectures at the North, during the approaching lecture season. Mr. Thompson is well known as one of the most elegant and pleasing writers of the South.

Over 600 persons are said to have set down at one table, in one of the Hotels, in Saratoga, last week. Saratoga is now full and over full--but the capacity of the place to hold everything and every body is as great as ever.

The Kanawha river continues very low, and no steamboats are running.

The Drought in Ohio.

A feeling of gloom pervades our people generally, on account of the severe and long continued drought. The frost was a great calamity; but the drought bids fair to be even worse. The grass is generally dried up; potatoes which are now in the soil must be pretty much a failure; corn is suffering badly; and all other crops come in for a share of the calamity. Our vegetable market is bare of the usual variety, and it is a little difficult to supply our tables.--Newark (O.) North American.

Letter from the "Seven Fountains."

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette, SEVEN FOUNTAINS, SHERMAN COUNTY, VA., July 30.--It is as Mr. Jefferson said, worth a trip across the Atlantic, to see the grandeur and beauty of the scenery around and about Harper's Ferry, a greater inducement presents itself to visit this place, as some of the most grand and sublime scenery presents itself to the eye, on the way here, that mortal vision ever beheld; more especially, that part of it about the entrance of the Fort Monmouth. At one point, the limestone rises perpendicularly to the height of several hundred feet; at another point, it falls rock upon rock from a considerable height, as if thrown down from some sudden convulsion of nature, forming altogether one of the most awful defiles that nature in her wildest freaks has wrought, to my knowledge, within the limits of old Virginia.

In order to reach this place, you leave the cars of the Manassas Gap Railroad at Water Luck Station, and take stage at that point for this place, a distance of some twelve miles. Although the road is somewhat rough, it is nothing like as much so as some, who are interested in other watering places, would have the public believe; and I have only to say, if it was four times as rough as it is, that those who make over it will be amply compensated for all the inconveniences to which they may be subjected in that particular, by the interesting and varied scenery that breaks upon their vision, from every mountain pass and ravine.

It has been my privilege to visit all the most important watering places in the State, and all the places of note to which the attention of the lovers of nature's works has been called, and I unhesitatingly say, that my eye has never gazed upon anything to equal that which presents itself at various points, within a short distance of these Springs. In addition to the beautiful scenery, you may enjoy the advantage of the finest water, of various kinds, to be met with in any part of the world. The White Sulphur Spring here, is, in my opinion, in all respects, equal to the Greenbrier White Sulphur. The Blue Sulphur is also an excellent water. There are six other Springs, to wit: Lime Stone, Black Sulphur, Free Stone, Chalybeate, Alum, and Slate, and all located within a circle, the radius of which does not exceed a dozen paces. This place is very handsomely improved. The main building is a fine, spacious house, with all necessary conveniences attached. There are a number of neat and pleasant cottages surrounding it, located at the base of the Massanutts Mountain. Next year, the entire south-west corner of the resort, is to be a range of beautiful mountains, rising in successive tiers one above the other. In fact, this altogether one of the most delightful summer retreats that I have ever visited. The surrounding country is in all respects healthy, being free from epidemics of any kind whatever.

There are now here some fifty or more visitors--among them are a number of ladies--some of whom are from the Monumental City and Washington City, but the principal portion from Virginia, all of whom appear to be well pleased. I have seldom seen a more agreeable company together. The most kind and friendly spirits, and all seem anxious to promote the happiness of each other. There is a fine band of music, and every night is enlivened with its swelling notes, which are fully appreciated by those who love "to trip upon the light fantastic toe." I have no doubt but that, in a few days from this time, there will be quite a large crowd here, as the proprietor receives letters daily, from various quarters, informing him that he may expect them.

I should think it would be a very profitable outlay, upon their part, of the Railroad, could aid in improving the twelve miles from Water Luck Station to this point, as it would be an inducement to many persons to come here over the road, for the purpose of enjoying the advantages of these fine Springs, who now go to the Greenbrier White Sulphur, and other places--this place being within a day's journey of Baltimore, Washington, and other important localities. Nature has unquestionably designed this to be at some day, one of the most desirable and important watering places within the broad limits of the commonwealth, to say nothing about the United States.

I am of the opinion that Alexandria has also some interest in trying to see this place built up, as a great many persons visiting here will have necessarily to pass through that place, coming from and returning to their homes, many of whom will be desirous to take the opportunity to visit the place where rest, in solemn silence, the remains of George Washington, whose name is intimately associated with this very spot, as it is said that it was at this natural Fort he intended to make his last stand, in the hour of greatest peril, in defense of his country.

These Springs are now kept by Mr. Samuel A. Danner, a gentleman of fine character, intelligence, and an excellent accompaniment; and it affords me great pleasure to say, that nothing that can be done by himself and accomplished body, is left unattempted, to give satisfaction to those who favor them with their patronage. In them, too, the invalid will find most kind and sympathizing friends, ever willing and ready to administer to their every want. This place was formerly called Burner's Springs, and is probably known more extensively by that name than its present.

Mr. Danner has for his assistant, Mr. Jas. M. Tutt, the former esteemed proprietor of that well known and popular Hotel, the Warren Green, at Warrenton, Fauquier Co., Va.

Kentucky Election. LOUISVILLE, August 2.--The election in this State for Governor and Congress was held yesterday. The following are the reports as far as heard from:--

In this city and Jefferson county the opposition ticket has received a majority of about 1,100 votes. At the last Congressional election the opposition majority was 1,093. Malloy, opposition, thus far ahead of Holt, dem., 900 votes. This is Humphrey Marshall's district.

As far as heard from, in the Ashland district, the vote is close.

In the fifth Congressional district, Jno. Y. Brown, on the regular democratic ticket, is probably elected over John H. Jewett, independent democrat.

Meigs returns from the second district show a large opposition gain. Messrs Jackson (opp.) and Peyton (dem.) are the candidates for Congress in that district.

SECOND DISPATCH--St. Louis, August 2.--The following Congressmen have been elected:--Barrett, dem.; Peyton, opp., probably elected in second district; Bristow, opp.; Brown, dem.; in the fifth district, over Jewett, independent; Garrard, dem. probably; Malloy, opposition, in the seventh district, over Holt, dem.; Sims, dem., probably; and Stevenson, dem.

The returns indicate the election of Morgan, the democratic candidate for Governor, over John P. Bell, opposition.

Also a small democratic majority in the Legislature on joint ballot.

Missouri Election

St. Louis, Aug. 2.--Incomplete returns from this county of the election held yesterday, indicate the success of the Republican ticket by a large majority. The election for judges of the Supreme Court, members of the Legislature, Clerks of Courts, and County Commissioners.

The Interview of the Two Emperors.

[Vallegio, July 11.] Correspondence of the London Herald.]

This place and date will mark in history, and future writers will speak of the interview of Villfranca as of that of Erfurt, and that of Turin will be remembered as that morning, but had I come the day before I could not have witnessed more than I did.

Orders, dictated by a feeling of delicacy, had been given, that only privileged persons should approach the place of the interview. Every care had been taken not to wound the pride of the Emperor of Austria, to whom it would doubtless have been disagreeable to have been exposed to much public view.

The meeting of the two sovereigns was fixed for one o'clock. At a quarter of an hour before, Napoleon III. arrived at the spot, and he came before the time in order that he might go on for a short distance to meet the Emperor of Austria. Francis Joseph soon made his appearance, and, seeing that his late adversary had courteously come to receive him, urged forward his horse. When the two parties had come near, the escorts stopped short and the Emperors advanced into the centre of the unoccupied space.

The escort of the Emperor Napoleon was composed of Marshal Vaillant, General Martigney, General Fleury, the officers of the imperial household and of his staff, and of a squadron of the Cent Gardes and one of the Guides, all in their splendid full dress uniforms. His Majesty rode the fine bay horse which he has used since the commencement of the campaign. He wore the uniform of a general of division, with the kepi. The Emperor of Austria also wore an uniform of blue uniform frock coat, and was followed by his staff, a squadron of his body guard, composed of nobles, and a squadron of Hungarians. It is said that he was much struck with the martial bearing of the French cavalry, and that in the presence of the Cent Gardes and the Guides, the Austrian body guard and the Hungarians did not appear to advantage.

On the two sovereigns meeting in the mid space they courteously saluted and shook hands. The Emperor of Austria appeared pleased with the cordial welcome and open manner of the Emperor Napoleon. The two Emperors remained for a moment alone in the middle of the road, and exchanged a few words. They then reciprocally presented the officers of their staffs, and the moment after the several officers were intermingled, and Marshal Vaillant was seen in conversation with Baron de Bress.

Napoleon III. and the Emperor Francis Joseph then advanced side by side towards Villfranca, the Cent Gardes giving the precedence to the body guard of Austria, who led the way, but the Guides passing before Napoleon III. In the principal street of the town, had been prepared to receive the two sovereigns. The Emperor of Austria had passed a night there before the battle of Solferino. It is a habitation comfortable, but simple, and not remarkable for any extraordinary attraction.

I had visited it early in the morning, and saw, in addition to the bedroom of the Austrian Emperor, the sitting room in which the conference was to take place some hours later. The furniture and curtains were green, and the walls painted in distemper. There were several seats of various kinds, but no table. In the centre was an oblong table covered with a green cloth, and on it was placed, just as I entered, a vase of freshly gathered flowers, which quite perfumed the room. It was there that for upwards of an hour and a half the two Emperors were seated discussing the highest interests, and without any one being present. From a feeling of delicacy, the King of Piedmont was not invited to the interview. It cannot but be allowed that the presence of a successor is always more annoying and undesirable than that of a viceroy, or a conqueror. Whilst the interview was going on I was outside in the street, where I could see the escorts, some remaining seated on their horses while others had dismounted. But not the slightest word was heard, every kind of conversation was suspended; and all seemed dominated involuntarily by a certain emotion produced by the importance of the incident which was passing.

As to what took place inside I cannot say anything; all that I know is that when the two sovereigns issued forth from the conference they seemed both perfectly satisfied, and in an instant all were in the street. The Emperor of Austria uttered a few words expressive of the admiration he felt for the French army, and did Marshal Vaillant and General Martigney and Fleury the honor of shaking hands with them.

The two sovereigns then took leave of each other with the greatest cordiality; and the next moment each splendid cortege was on the way back to the place from which it had started.

The Emperor of the French entered Vallegio at a little after eleven.

Speech of the Emperor of the French.

The Paris Monitor of the 20th ult., contains the following:--

Yesterday evening, the Emperor received the great bodies of the 3d et 4e, the presidents of which, M. Trophim, Count de Murry, and M. Barache, addressed congratulatory speeches to his Majesty. The Emperor thanked them for their devotion, and then explained the reasons for his conduct during the great events. He said:--

"Arrived beneath the walls of Verona, the struggle was inevitably about to change its nature, as well in a military as a political aspect. Obligated to attack the enemy in front, who was entrenched behind great fortresses, and protected on his flank by the neutrality of the surrounding territory, and about to begin a long and barren war, I found myself in the face of Europe in arms, ready to dispute our successes or aggravate our reverses. Nevertheless, the difficulty of the enterprise would not have shaken my resolution. I was not to be deterred by the prospect of a long and barren war, I found myself in the face of Europe in arms, ready to dispute our successes or aggravate our reverses. Nevertheless, the difficulty of the enterprise would not have shaken my resolution. I was not to be deterred by the prospect of a long and barren war, I found myself in the face of Europe in arms, ready to dispute our successes or aggravate our reverses. 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